



**Thailand AERA Annual Activities Report
October 2004 – September 2005
Accelerated Economic Recovery in Asia
A US Government Funded Program
through the
US Agency for International Development (USAID)**

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ANNUAL REPORT OVERVIEW

This report covers the fifth year of the Thailand portion of the USAID program Accelerating Economic Recovery in Asia during Fiscal Year 2005. Post-economic crisis recovery continues to be an important part in AERA's objectives. Additionally, as Thailand recuperates economically, it has become increasingly important to establish mechanisms and structures to prevent similar disasters in the future. Therefore, business and economic reform have become an important objective of the program. Through a number of business-related collaborations and informational trainings, the AERA program works with reform advocates in the Thai business sector and the organizations that support moves to higher standards of doing business. Improving business standards, streamlining operations, and creating healthy dialogue between the private and public sectors were all focus areas of the past year.

BUSINESS ADVISORY CENTER (BAC)

During 2004 – 2005, the Business Advisory Center (BAC) actively sought partnerships with strategic public and private organizations to work on projects that promote the sustainable competitiveness of the Thai economy. This objective has led the BAC to pursue projects in line with USAID's recovery and reform objectives from government agencies, international donors, and public and private companies alike. BAC activities have been geared toward three major fronts: entrepreneurship, micro-finance, and business skills development.

Entrepreneurship development efforts involved cooperation with public and academic partners such as the Office of Vocational Education Commission (OVEC), the Ministry of Education, the Department of Business Development, the Ministry of Commerce, Rangsit University and Dhurakijpundit University. Efforts are being made to foster similar relationships with other like-minded organizations to reach the entire country. BAC consultants are developing into competent entrepreneurship trainers. A three-product team structure comprising International Marketing, Financial Advisory Services, and Management Tools was developed with emphasis on training, both formal and on-the-job, to enhance staff capacity. A new team will provide services on entrepreneurship and incubation. The training is meant to create more capable entrepreneurs to fuel the economy. Consultants in other product teams are pooled to teach courses that fit their expertise.

Microfinance activities began, utilizing US expertise to develop a training curriculum suitable to Thai conditions. Business skills development incorporates both management training and consulting. BAC projects underway this year included opening a new incubation program with funding from the Department of Industrial Promotion (DIP), Ministry of Industry, receiving a World Bank grant to plan for an ICT business incubator, and training Mae Hong Son entrepreneurs. Professional US expertise has also been identified and utilized in this area to transfer know-how and experience to further develop the capabilities of the BAC and its partners.

The Business Advisory Center continues to move towards activities with a broader impact, as recommended by the USAID evaluation team. The Center is developing both internal capability and institutional partnerships to make a broader impact through entrepreneurship and business



incubation. The BAC team continues to develop expertise through partnerships with major Thai and US organizations that are strategically placed to create new entrepreneurs to help drive the recovering economy. Business knowledge-providing seminars continue to be a major capacity-building, broad-impact activity of the BAC. The various BAC seminars are designed to help leaders of small businesses realize the need to focus on carefully selected niche markets, increase their ability to innovate and increase attention to branding. Knowledge of the latest economic trends and opportunities is also provided to equip business leaders with necessary information to steer their businesses wisely.

On another front, the BAC has taken on the opportunity to help the Board of Investment (BOI), the country's sole foreign direct investment promotion agency, in its mission to attract foreign direct investment appropriate to Thailand's sustainable development. BAC consultants are developing a plan to identify appropriate strategies for the agency to reach targeted industries and geographical regions more effectively. They also assist with the development of various tools necessary for the agency to realize its objectives. This effort utilizes the experience gained from AERA but is wholly funded by the BOI.

BUSINESS SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (BSOP)

The BSOP develops mutually beneficial, sustainable partnerships between US and Thai business support organizations in order to strengthen the regulatory and competitive environment, business standards, and good governance practices for the Thai private sector.

The BSOP has been concentrating on projects that develop and promote good governance, transparency, business structural reform, ethics, deepening of financial reform, and international competitiveness. Since the beginning of the BSOP program in October 1999, a total of thirty-two large and small partnership projects have been approved and implemented under USAID-funded BSOP program.

In total, thirty large-grant partnership projects have been completed to date. This past fiscal year, two large-grant partnership projects were underway -- a Regional Judicial Reform program on Alternative Dispute Resolutions and years one and two of a collaboration with Boston College's Center for Corporate Citizenship on Corporate Citizenship training in Thailand. Additionally, the Intellectual Property Rights Management Training Program was completed. In 2003-2004, BSOP focused on strengthening existing partnerships through follow-up activities instead of creating new partnerships.

EDUCATION

The AERA Education Program helps develop Thailand's capability through the education system to produce high school graduates equipped with IT and English skills in order to contribute fully to national economic development. The Program also works to build capacity in various areas for higher educational institutions.

The Education Program focused significant efforts on a couple of initiatives to employ Internet technology and computer resources to improve English-language skills and computer literacy of



students and teachers. Programs in Chiang Rai and Surin provided valuable know-how on website resources, animation use, and a variety of courseware and office programs.

The community college system also received assistance in the past year. Workshops on independent learning and how to administer and run self-access English language centers were delivered by the Thai and US expert teams from King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi and Oregon State University to community college administrators, teachers and interested public. The self-access centers are now operational at Thailand's ten community college campuses and will be supported by a number of American volunteers participating in three-month program in Thailand. Additionally, an entrepreneurship initiative called "REAL" has been localized and will be spread throughout the community college system by six qualified trainers.

BORDER ACTION AGAINST MALARIA (BAAM)

The past fiscal year was highlighted by the cooperative meetings between Thai and Burmese health officials and disease prevention workers. A new treatment, developed largely through the efforts of BAAM's sentinel surveillance program, was introduced during the conferences as a solution to a strain of multi-drug resistant malaria. BAAM also pushed to improve self-reliance among border provinces in terms of preventing and treating disease. BAAM continued to search for affordable and locally-producible antigens for the provinces to develop and self-administer.

The program also created a number of school-based education initiatives on disease prevention. 2003-2004 witnessed the pilot implementation of an integrated thematic curriculum unit on Mosquito-Borne Diseases. The curriculum was administered to grades 1-9 in 40 border area schools in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chanthaburi, and Trat Provinces.

An *In vitro* sensitivity monitoring and *in vivo* therapeutic efficacy study of currently used, front line, anti-malarial drugs took place in nine border provinces. A total of 15 expansion sites undertook analysis of ways that communities can protect their members from malaria. As a result of monitoring and research, a revised therapy treatment was released.

The monitoring of therapeutic efficacy supported by BAAM has shown that use of the malaria drug mefloquine alone is no longer effective, and another drug, artesunate-mefloquine, should also be used in treating drug resistant strains of malaria.

Other major activities implemented under the BAAM Project during 2003-2004 included:

- Community consultation workshops to decide on feasible alternatives for community action against malaria based on situation assessments in 15 expansion sites under the Partnerships for a School-Based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria project;
- Workshop to review and summarize results of three years' implementation of the Partnerships for a School-Based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria project in Chiang Mai, Mae Hong Son, Tak Chantaburi and Trat Provinces.
- Implementation of Community-Based Malaria Control through Civic Partnerships in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces.



THE THAILAND COMPETITIVENESS INITIATIVE (TCI)

TCI services are based on a comprehensive process which includes an array of diagnostic tools that assist in formulating and implementing cluster-based strategies. TCI works to enhance competitiveness among selected Thai, Vietnamese, and Cambodian industries to help improve quality, productivity, and opportunities for success in an ever-globalizing economy.

In Thailand, key activities undertaken in 2003-2004 included:

- The Chantaburi Gems Cluster: The cluster opened two new buildings in Chantaburi. A “Chantaburi Section” of 24 booths was also set up at the 2004 Bangkok International Gem & Jewelry Fair in February. The cluster worked to expand Chantaburi’s gem exposure to international markets and prepare the local producers for trade shows in North America and elsewhere.
- The Chiang Mai Tourism Cluster: The tourism cluster worked with Chiang Mai tourism organizations to implement changes suggested by a recent review of destinations in the *National Geographic* magazine.
- High-Value Agricultural Produce Cluster in Western Thailand: The cluster celebrated the official opening of the Technology Clinic at Kasetsart University to provide educational services to local farmers. HVAP also worked closely with Thai and Vietnamese growers on standards of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to ensure optimal success in foreign and domestic exports. The cluster was also granted a 12 million Baht grant to establish a center of intelligence at Kasetsart University.
- The Marine Food Cluster in Southern Thailand: The cluster officially launched its engagement on January 13th, 2004. A West-Coast consulting firm is undertaking a study of specialty shrimp products in California. Entrance into North American markets is currently being researched as well.
- The Bangkok Multi-Media Cluster: (1) Encouraged by TCI, SIPA (Software Investment Promotion Agency) sponsored the Thai Animation and Mult-Media TAM 2004. KIAAsia sponsored Thai Anima 2003. The cluster also officially organized the Bangkok SIGGRAPH, the largest international association of graphics professionals.

In Cambodia, major activities included:

- Completion of a report by SME Cambodia (SMEC) on the Tonle Sap Fishery Cluster with complete diagnostics and initial strategic initiatives.
- Meetings with fish vendors from Rangsit and Thai markets were held to discuss trading volumes, prices, and other commercial interests. A discussion was also held on the prospect of using Cambodian fish in Thai processing.
- The project team gave presentations on developing regional plans for the northwest provinces of Cambodia.

In Vietnam, key actions were:

- KIAAsia and HVAP organized a one-day seminar with Vietnamese associations on how to introduce GAP to their practices. Further cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand was discussed.



- The TCI conducted a case-writing session and the module on competitiveness and development course at Hanoi University's Hanoi School of Business.
- The team gave a presentation on examples of cross-border/regional linkages for Vietnam's agri-business products.

Participation in the project was completed in the last quarter of 2004. Therefore, much of TCI's work during this quarter focused on completion of their work and the preparation of their final reporting. JAA worked with KIASia to organize a competitiveness conference that reported on the project results so far and considered ways to move forward.

KIASia received approval from USAID to continue cluster development work in Thailand through September 2005. The TCI staff at the Institute will also continue to work with Vietnam GAP, Cambodian Fisheries and Laos Silk to explore the potential for developing regional competitiveness projects after 2005.



-Progress Reports-

Business Advisory Center

The Business Advisory Center (BAC) is a business consulting and training unit of Kenan Institute Asia that works to build management capability and process improvements for small and medium-sized Thai businesses. The center has expanded its services to include business incubation, entrepreneurship training and microfinance for owner-managers of very small businesses.

Accomplishments

Entrepreneurship Development

The Kenan entrepreneurship team organized three workshops on running incubators for small businesses, training trainers from 10 vocational colleges during the year. Each workshop had approximately 30 participants. The workshops focused on writing business plans for the purpose of launching business incubators at each of their colleges. The workshops were part of a feasibility-study project, on which Kenan and the Office of Vocational Education Commission (OVEC) are cooperating to find ways to set up business incubators in all the regions of Thailand. OVEC plans to establish 11 incubators in 2007.

Master facilitators for the REAL curriculum from the BAC continued to work with the U-Links program to assist the Bureau of Community College Administration to develop entrepreneurs in their service areas. The master-facilitator team initiated a mentoring and quality assurance program by designing a 5-day training course for the 10 community colleges that sent their teachers for the train-the-trainer course in Bangkok to organize for their provinces. The colleges were assigned by the Bureau to take turns organizing courses in their provinces. BAC master facilitators traveled to each province to help community college facilitators deliver high-quality courses. Facilitators from colleges that had organized a course were also assigned to help other colleges, and share their experience with the curriculum. Most activities were facilitated by the host community colleges and the sister colleges that were assigned to help out. BAC facilitators assisted with just a few activities to help ease the workload. Their main tasks were to provide guidance and feedback and ensure the courses met quality standards as designed by CFED/REAL. The training courses were delivered in seven provinces in the central and northern areas of the country.

The Kenan team delivered two more workshops in the challenging southern provinces. The three southern border provinces of Yala, Pattani and Naratiwas were the trickiest among the 10 sites for BAC facilitators because the security situation in the area forced the team to move the location to nearby Trang. The U-Links program worked with the Trang Chamber of Commerce to host the workshop. Ranong was actually the location in which BAC master facilitators and REAL master facilitators from North Carolina first collaborated to run a workshop back in May.

The workshops proved to be popular with the attending entrepreneurs and trainers. The drop out rate was quite low. Most trainees found many activities to be useful for their businesses or potential businesses and intended to put the materials to real use. The experiential-learning



concept worked very well, as the trainees enjoyed the activities and tried to get the most out of the time they spent thinking through and brainstorming each activity. Further, many stars emerged out of the community college facilitators as they performed superbly. All they need is more experience in facilitating REAL courses, which they plan to organize in the future.

Microfinance - Sustainable Village Development

The microfinance program encourages the establishment of community saving funds by providing seed grants and microfinance management training. In addition, technical support is provided with the grants. The microfinance team focused on Krabi and Phang Nga working with eight saving groups. Technical advice was provided to establish saving and lending procedures, accounting formats, loan verification and approval processes, and cash flow management.

To provide additional skills needed for viable businesses, training courses on jewelry design, sewing head scarves (Jihab) for Muslim ladies, producing organic fertilizers and the design of souvenirs. The training focused on understanding the market and providing high-value products that are in demand.

The program utilizes REAL entrepreneurship training quite heavily, primarily to teach entrepreneurship skills to actual and potential entrepreneurs. Another important objective is to endow members of the saving groups with the knowledge and availability of resources that should ensure they cannot be exploited by potentially self-interested community leaders, who might put personal gain ahead of the community.

Tsunami Recovery Action Initiative Project

Among the 21 active consulting projects of the BAC, 17 projects were concluded as planned during the fiscal year. One project is being concluded in October. Work on three projects will continue into fiscal year 2006. Most of these projects concentrated on a few areas considered most critical by affected SMEs after the tsunami crisis. Marketing was the number one priority, as a majority of potential foreign tourists who have in the past found the area an attractive destination have yet to return. A large number of projects sought to develop business plans to help guide the SMEs' destiny. Another important area of focus is production efficiency. The remaining projects fell into various specific areas of importance to each company. A tourist van fleet operator, for example, was given assistance in the development of software to manage their rental fleet, while an abalone farm received help from an American expert on abalone breeding. Another four projects undertaken by volunteers from PricewaterhouseCoopers on a no-cost basis.



Intermediate Objective 1**Bank and Business Activity Restarted**

Indicator	Business plans or elements of business plans in use by SMEs receiving AERA assistance.
Unit of Measure	Percentage of SMEs with current business planning.
Source	Company follow-up reviews by BAC.
Indicator Description	Each SME receiving assistance will be encouraged where appropriate to use business planning methodologies. The percentage of firms that continue to maintain that planning one year after assistance is projected at 50%.

Year	Target	Actual
1999	0	Baseline – 0
2000	50%	100% *
2001	50%	100% *
2002	50%	97% **
2003	50%	100% ***
2004	50%	91% ****
2005	50%	100% *****

- * All of the 32 and 5 responded projects in year 2000 and 2001 respectively either have business plans newly created or have existing plans in place
- ** 36 of 37 respondents have business plans in place and 1 does not
- *** All of the 5 respondents for Q1&2, all 9 respondents for Q3 and all 6 respondents for Q4 reported having business plans in place
- **** 3 of the 4 respondents for Q1 reported having business plans in place while all of 6 respondents for Q2 did, no respondent in Q3, the 1 respondent in Q4 did
- ***** All 2 responded projects in Q1 reported having business plans in use, no respondent in Q2&3, all 5 respondents in Q4 did.

Business Support Organizations Partnership

The BSOP aims to develop mutually beneficial, sustainable partnerships between US and Thai business support organizations in order to strengthen the regulatory and competitive environment, business standards, and good governance practices for the Thai private sector.

The BSOP has been concentrating on projects which develop and promote good governance, transparency, business structural reform, ethics, deepening of financial reform, and international competitiveness. Since the beginning of the BSOP program in October 1999, a total of thirty-two large and small partnership projects have been approved and implemented under USAID-funded BSOP program

Accomplishments

1. Corporate Citizenship Training Program: Engaging the Private Sector for Sustainable Economic Progress – Phase II

The Business Support Organizations Partnership Program (BSOP), in collaboration with The Center for Corporate Citizenship (CCC) at Boston College, delivered four training courses on corporate social responsibility. Two courses covered the main issues of designing and implementing corporate social responsibility projects. A third course on “Evaluation and Measurement” and a fourth on “Building Effective Employee Volunteering Programs” were also provided. An average of 27 participants, including senior and mid-level management from a variety of companies took part in the training.

2. Regional Judicial Reform: Alternative Dispute Resolution

Thailand’s Ministry of Justice is joining with the Office of the Judiciary and BSOP organized the 2nd ASEAN Law Forum focusing on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), including conciliation, mediation, and arbitration. The participants include representatives from ASEAN member countries, including Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The forum was successfully completed.

Regulatory Dialogue Program

BSOP and PADCO worked with a range of U.S. and Asian partners and donors to support country-led reform initiatives by facilitating access to international best practices that promote improved corporate and public governance. Four dialogue projects in Thailand and four dialogue projects in Vietnam have been completed. In total, eight dialogue projects were completed during the year.

Business Support Organization Partnerships Indicator Tables

Intermediate Objective 1 Corporate and Financial Governance Improved

Indicator	Policies, systems, or procedures adopted by participating partner organizations
Unit of Measure	Number of participating organizations implementing policies, systems, or procedures introduced or strengthened through the partnership fostered by the BSOP

Year	Expected Measures Cumulative	Actual
1999	0	Baseline - 0
2000	2	7
2001	7	17
2002	10	23
2003	15	25
2004*	20	27
2005	25	

* Q4 of Year 2004 (April – June 2004): 27 policies and systems have been changed.

Intermediate Objective 2 Financial and Corporate Governance Improved

Indicator	The number of long-term partnerships maintained
Unit of Measure	Number of partnerships

Year	Expected Partnerships Cumulative	Actual
1999	0	Baseline - 0
2000	2	7
2001	4	16
2002	8	22
2003	12	23
2004*	10	25
2005	8	25

*Q2 of year 2003 (April – June): 23 partnerships between Thai and U.S. organizations are maintained.

AERA Education Program

The emergence of information technology as a critical tool for learning is an important aspect of the development benefit from IT. KIASIA's Education Program promotes the use of information and communications technology (ICT), active participatory learning, and community linkages as learning tools so that both educators and students are comfortable with new technologies and learning styles. The AERA Education specifically targets students and teachers, both at the secondary and higher education levels, with the hope of connecting Thailand's population and enabling the future workforce to positively contribute to economic development.

Accomplishments

The Self-Access English Language Centers (SACs) are up and running at ten community college sites.

The US – GMS English Academic Fellowship awarded visiting professor fellowships and graduate students fellowship to six professors and three graduate students from Yunnan Province of China, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar and Thailand. The fellows began teaching and research at the Mae Fah Luang University. KIASIA and Mae Fah Luang University organized an international TESOL conference on "Better English for Better Regional Understanding" in September 2005.

In an effort to leverage available funding and coordinate efforts with other donors, the IT for Education component of AERA coordinated activities with the World Bank-funded Secondary Education Quality Improvement (SEQI) project. These included a training workshop on Computer Assisted Language Learning (CAELL) and using information technology for teaching English, a workshop on enhancing management of technology, a training program promoting supporting mentoring for educational supervisors, a workshop on participatory evaluation and local development of educational software and courseware.

Challenges

Once the workshops and training have been completed, the main challenge is following up to provide continued informational support for the trainees as they try to implement their new skills.

For the Community Colleges, the next step is to develop a handbook on how to set up and run the community learning centers in order to serve as a guideline for new and existing programs. The project will develop a website through which SAC administrators can share their experience and lessons-learned.

Border Action Against Malaria

With the financial support of the USAID, the Border Action Against Malaria (BAAM) program is committed to slowing the emergence and spread of multi-drug resistant malaria in Thailand's border regions. The initiative collaborates with a number of national agencies for surveillance, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment purposes. Through its cooperative efforts, BAAM aims to ultimately reduce malarial-related risks as well as to reform public health systems.

Much of BAAM's efforts during the past year centered on the decentralization and reform of Thai public health systems. The goal is to provide communities with the necessary tools and resources to fight the spread of infectious disease on a local level. While prevention and control can be monitored by outside parties, BAAM seeks to instill a measure of self-reliance in Thailand's border provinces.

Accomplishments

During this fiscal year major accomplishments under the BAAM Project included:

Surveillance of MDR Malaria

Sentinel site monitoring of anti-malarial drug resistance: *In vitro* sensitivity monitoring and 28-day follow-up *in vivo* study of therapeutic efficacy of the currently of the currently used front line antimalarial drugs continued in 9 border provinces under the malaria sentinel surveillance drug resistance network initiative. Preliminary results indicate significantly low rates of adequate clinical and parasitological response to the standard 2-day treatment regimen for *P. falciparum* (artesunate 600 mg. and mefloquine 1,250 mg.) as follows:

- Tak Province = 86.04% (85.7% in 2004 and 92.8% in 2003)
- Ratchaburi Province = 81.42%
- Ranong Province = 87.20% (88.5% in 2004 and 93.9% in 2003)
- Trat Province = 93.3% (Bureau of Vector-Borne Disease); however, recent unofficial verbal reports from AFRIMS indicate that 5 out of 9 cases followed-up for 28 days showed less than 50% ACPR rates..

These results appear to indicate a trend that the standard 2-day national treatment regimen for *P. falciparum* (artesunate 600 mg. and mefloquine 1,250 mg.) is progressively showing reduced therapeutic efficacy. The implications are that Thailand needs to identify and test a replacement treatment regimen for implementation in selected sites as soon as possible. Resistance to artesunate-mefloquine therapy may have significant implications for neighboring countries using this combination treatment.

Response to MDR Malaria

Treatment policy for multi-drug resistant malaria: This is the fifth quarter of implementation of new standard treatment guidelines for a 2-day regimen using mefloquine-artesunate combination treatment for multi-drug resistant malaria throughout the country, which is the result of 3 years of therapeutic efficacy monitoring in 9 sentinel sites supported by BAAM, annual reviews, and numerous meetings of the National Antimalarial Drug Policy Committee to revise the drug treatment policy that became effective nation-wide starting in October 2004. BAAM Project Manager discussed the prospects of shifting to a 3-day regimen with the Director of the Bureau of Vector Borne Disease, who suggested that he is supportive of revising the policy from a 2-day to a 3-day regimen. Also discussed was the reducing cure rate for the present regimen and the need to begin identifying the best candidates for the next generation treatment regimen for multi-drug resistant malaria in Thailand.

Research and development of an affordable, reliable, locally-produced rapid test for malaria antigen: The Ministry of Public Health continued research on developing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection; research for cloning and expression of LDH and GAPDH enzymes from *P. falciparum* by genetic engineering method; and research and development for production of a dipstick kit utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection. 4 LDH and 4 GAPDH clones with an acceptable level of response have been produced for use by NIH on the prototype dipstick. A technology transfer consultancy due in October to resolve constraints in producing the dipstick was delayed.

The Bureau of Vector Borne Disease officially informed KIASia that it has produced 4 inventions and KIASia officially informed USAID of these inventions as follows:

1. process for producing specific monoclonal antibodies against PLDH protein, Pf and PAN species
2. monoclonal antibodies against PLDH that can detect Pf or Pv as low as 312 parasites per microlitre
3. process for producing specific monoclonal antibodies against PGAPDH protein, Pf and PAN species
4. monoclonal antibodies against PLDH that can detect Pf or Pv as low as 156 parasites per microlitre

In the next quarter, KIASia will seek consultations with USAID regarding regulations, procedures and legal actions related to application of Standard Provision 3.22 Patent Rights (June 1993) of the Cooperative Agreement.

School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria Subproject: Teams of health officials, education officials, university teacher training professors, and BAAM staff conducted on-site supervision and mentoring follow-up visits to 230 teachers in 46 schools covering more than 100 villages with the highest malaria prevalence from June through October. During the November term break BAAM organized 2 teacher training workshops with the Education Service Area Offices in Mae Sot (Tak) and Mae Hong Son, health

and malaria control agencies. In December, teachers implemented a local curriculum (grades 4-9) covering mosquito-borne diseases including malaria, dengue, filariasis, and Japanese encephalitis.

Challenges

Major challenges for the next fiscal year include the following:

- Monitoring antimalarial drug resistance in sentinel sites;
- Implementation of the community and provider anti-malaria drug use practices study in Tak Province;
- Conducting on-site follow-up of teacher training courses for expansion of the school-based malaria education program with the Education Service Area Offices in Mae Sot (Tak) and Mae Hong Son, health and malaria control agencies;
- Continuing research and development efforts on producing dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection: field testing and legal processes to protect inventions and move toward application and commercialization;
- Participating in an RBM Partnership Secretariat planning conference aimed at the elaboration of a plan of action on Gender and Malaria at regional, national and community levels in Tanzania in March 2006;
- Participating in a Thai-Burma Border-Wide Malaria Meeting

Thailand Competitiveness Initiative

The Thailand Competitiveness Initiative (TCI) was established in order to expand competitiveness and cluster development in Thailand in the aftermath of the 1997 Asian Crisis and in the context of increasing globalization. Thai industries must reposition themselves in the face of global competition. TCI focuses on improving competitiveness, defined as a process that generates sustainable increases in productivity. TCI services are based on a comprehensive process which includes an array of diagnostic tools that assist in formulating and implementing cluster-based strategy, leadership mapping, competitive positioning, industry structure, benchmarking, gap, trend, and value chain analyses.

:

Clusters are geographic concentrations of interconnected companies, specialized suppliers, service providers, and associated institutions in a particular field that are present in a nation or a region. The cluster approach to business development has found significant success in markets around the world and promises to lead to equivalent results in Thailand and neighboring countries.

Accomplishments

TCI was designed to develop the competitiveness of selected industry clusters in Thailand. Clusters were selected using an approach which included a variety of industries located throughout Thailand. Clusters were selected because they were significant contributors to the national economy, valued either as percentage of GDP, or in more qualitative terms. TCI endeavored to engage clusters that exhibited a coalescence among members or at least willingness to engage and explore competitiveness issues. Clusters varied in size, sophistication and location. In all cases, clusters were in industries that were highlighted by the Thai government as valuable to the development of the national economy and its ability to compete in a marketplace characterized by increasing globalization.

Success indicators outlined in the project proposal stated that two clusters were expected to “meet regularly to deal with cluster competitiveness issues” and “companies and organizations within those clusters (were expected to) show clear evidence of a willingness to collaborate”. TCI achieved these results in seven clusters. Additionally, clusters were expected to “demonstrate the emergence of collective governance of the cluster and have contributed their own funds for either cluster facilitators or joint activities.” TCI achieved these results in five clusters. TCI undertook an additional five engagements or ‘special activities’ which also showed positive results, but these amounted to less than full engagement, for various reasons.

TCI therefore, was undertaken with groups of inter-related businesses (clusters) to develop strategic plans for improvements in productivity that were grounded in market realities. Such clusters included companies further up and down the value chain, competitors, and various government agencies and universities. The process required extensive research capabilities and sound economic analysis, including a strong familiarity with the local economic environment. While KIASia clearly had the capacity at the project outset to undertake certain aspects of the initiative, JEA was selected to partner with KIASia because JEA had extensive experience in competitiveness initiatives in other countries around the world.

The proposal called for KIASia and JEA to work together to ‘build a cluster-based competitiveness process in Thailand and the region’ and had four main components:

- **Enhancing KIASia Capacity to Facilitate Cluster Competitiveness**
- **Public Outreach and Coordination**
- **Competitiveness Cluster Facilitation Activities**
- **Administrative Support for JE Austin**

Enhancing KIASia Capacity to Facilitate Cluster Competitiveness

Capacity development in KIASia was achieved through training and cooperation and partnership with JEA over the lifetime of the project. KIASia staff has gone through more than 20 training sessions. The bulk of training was conducted by the JEA Chief of Party (COP). Eight JEA executives and more than 6 consultants each conducted brief (half-day) training sessions. Topics included cluster building, value chain analysis, Porter diamond, branding, internet research skills, and benchmarking.

TCI has cooperated and partnered with NESDB, FTI, and IFCT on numerous occasions. They regularly attend the same conferences; know each other well and have strong cooperative relationships in supporting various initiatives.

Moreover, NESDB has repeatedly approached TCI for advice on competitiveness related issues and policy formation. TCI is credited for contributing to several publications including the GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) training manual, (see GAP Training Manual, located on www.kiasia.org).

In 2003 KIASia was selected to sit on the National Competitiveness Council along with NESDB and others including Prime Minister Taksin Shinawatra. The purpose was to operate as a network of advisors (competitiveness experts) for the Prime Minister to advise on policy development.

Most importantly, TCI was approached in 2005 as a leading member of a network of competitiveness professionals to undertake a sophisticated cluster mapping initiative for the country, and which would include all 76 provinces.

TCI was awarded such a large-scale high-profile project because it had clearly demonstrated itself as a leader among competitiveness professionals and government agencies in Thailand with solid experience facilitating cluster competitiveness.

Overall, KIASia and JEA staff worked together effectively to execute the project. As the project progressed and the capacity of KIASia staff increased, KIASia staff were able to take on more and more of the work until the time when JEA staff left the project.

Public Outreach and Coordination

Although there was significant interest in the concept of cluster competitiveness in Thailand and a variety of organizations were involved, understanding of the idea was uneven at the project outset. TCI endeavored to undertake several conferences over the project life, including four regional conferences that included professionals from outside Thailand, and numerous conferences within Thailand.

Regional training workshops were held on four separate occasions and were attended by persons from NESDB, FTI, National Competitiveness Committee, Thai Chamber of Commerce, Foreign Chambers of Commerce, and the Association of Thai Software Industry, among others.

Participant evaluation consistently ranked the workshop at better than 5/6 on many criteria, including organization of the workshop, speaker's material, appropriateness of topics, practical application, and others.

TCI organized a conference in June 2003 with 50 participants, including over 30 business journalists representing 23 media institutions who were all members of the Economic Reporters' Association. The conference gave TCI the opportunity to meet with the economic journalists and more specifically, to establish relations with the Editor of The Nation (one of two national, English-language dailies) and with specific journalists who were provided information of cluster activities and invited to cover specific events. The Editor of The Nation sponsored a competitiveness conference in 2004.

TV, radio & newspaper journalists covered the five cluster MOU signings, as well as special cluster events such as local product fairs, launching of the new offices and projects. For example, the journalists covered the attendance and speech of the Prime Minister when he met with a JEA policy advisor on national competitiveness, and when he went to the HVAP launch of the CIDES project and again at the digital content/multi-media cluster's TAM 2004. The journalists also covered the (Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) conferences.

There were other events covered in the two years. However, since all the clusters with the exception of the digital content/multi-media cluster, are based outside of Bangkok, most of the coverage was confined to local newspapers and television, and was almost entirely in Thai. TCI used a University of North Carolina intern to track articles on competitiveness (including those articles unrelated to TCI) in the two national, English language dailies, The Nation and the Bangkok Post. According to his search, there were 24 articles in 2002. The number of articles rose to 71 in 2003. From January to July (seven months), there were 39 articles; if the number is “annualized”, then the projected articles for 2004 would reach 66. The rise in published articles on competitiveness reflects increased awareness of competitiveness and the government’s “push” to expand exports, tourism, and other sectors of the economy.

Competitiveness Cluster Facilitation Activities

At least two clusters will:

- “meet regularly to deal with cluster competitiveness issues and companies and organizations within those clusters show clear evidence of a willingness to collaborate”

In total five clusters would fulfill the spirit of this indicator. There are three clusters in particular which have shown a “willingness to collaborate” and “have contributed their own funds” and “have established sustainable BSOP partnerships which can continue after AID funds are spent”. These three would be HVAP, Chantaburi Gems, and Digital Content. Examples of success among these clusters include the development of a four-year marketing plan with budget, by the Gems cluster. The high-value agricultural cluster has a well-established secretariat that undertakes food fairs and monitors activities of the cluster members, and the digital content cluster has institutionalized an annual Thai Animation and Multi-Media (TAM) Fair.

- “demonstrate the emergence of collective governance of the cluster and have contributed their own funds for either cluster facilitators or joint activity”

All the clusters are showing varying degrees of success in cluster leadership and a willingness to collaborate. On average, each cluster holds a small group meeting attended by its leaders or executive committee either weekly or bi-weekly, with about 8-15 participants in attendance. Furthermore, each cluster holds membership meetings of 20-30 participants approximately every month or every six weeks. Finally there are “large” conferences, held 2-3 times a year, ranging from 40-120 participants that include guests invited by the cluster, such as journalists or government officials.

PROJECT MATRICES

Business Support Organizations Partnership Program (2004-2005)

<i>BSOP Project Matrix – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Standards of Practice Handbook: Certified Investment and Securities Analyst Program / Financial Governance	The Association for Investment Management and Research (AIMR) and the Securities Analysts Association (SAA) promoted a "code of ethics" for the Thai corporate sector by translating and adapting the AIMR's manual for the Thai environment.	To build up a strong ethics and professional standards program	SAA (Thai), AIMR (US)	The project was completed in September 2001.
Support programs related to the Chartered Financial Analyst Designation/ Financial Governance	AIMR experts traveled to Bangkok to conduct a workshop on Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS). In addition, the 10-day review sessions in tutorial classes were delivered to prepare CISA/CFA candidates for level 1 and level 2, year 2002 exam, using Schweser materials.	to raise the quality of Thai practitioners in finance and capital markets.	SAA (Thai), AIMR (US), Schweser (US)	The project was completed in May 2002.
Upgrading the Capability of Accounting Instructors / Financial Governance	The Institute for Certified Auditors and Accountants of Thailand (ICAAT) developed accounting instructional aids including video tapes, computer programs and teacher's manuals to use in higher education with assistance from a US counterpart university.	Improved accounting standards particularly outside of Bangkok.	ICAAT (Thai), U.S. University	<p>The project was completed in December 2002.</p> <p>On December 12, 2003, ICAAT and KIA Asia presented customized these accounting teaching materials including CD-ROMs, transparencies, and teachers' manuals, to Her Royal Highness Princess Chulaporn Walailuk in honor of His Majesty the King Bhumibol Adulyadej on the occasion of his 75th birthday.</p>

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Comparative Study on Thailand's Savings and Investment Tax Policy / <i>Financial Governance</i>	The study was to examine the impact of Thailand's present tax structure on the financial and capital markets from both the economic and administrative aspects. The Security Exchange Commission of Thailand (SEC) asked for the Thai Development Research Institute with assistance from U.S. experts to conduct the study.	More attractive tax provisions for investors.	Thai SEC, TDRI, U.S. Counterpart	The project was completed in September 2001.
Bankruptcy Court Administration Program Part I / <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	The American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) has provided technical assistance to the Thai Central Bankruptcy Court (CBC) in training and establishing systems to deal under the revised laws with the backlog of corporate bankruptcies.	To improve the capabilities of the CBC and develop a relationship between CBC & ABI	CBC (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The project was completed in March 2002
Bankruptcy Court Administration Program Part II / <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	As a result of ABI's recommendation in Part I of the program, additional technical assistance and training is to be given to CBC by the ABI-member team in area of IT. With BSOP support, the videoconferencing equipment was also installed at the CBC to connect with the Office of the Judiciary.	To increase the capabilities of CBC in handling bankruptcy cases.	CBC (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The last training component in Thailand is pending.
Thai Bankers Handbook / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	Under a licensing agreement with the American Bankers Association (ABA), the Thai Institution for Banking and Finance Association (TIBFA) developed a handbook for all Thai Bankers by adopting ABA materials.	Completion and use of handbook throughout Thailand	TIBFA (Thai) ABA (U.S.)	TIBFA introduced a Thai Bankers' Handbook to 130 financial sector professionals and the media on March 14, 2003. The project was already completed.
<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				

<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Establishing TLAPS Linkage with APICS/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	To continue its effort to establish a sustainable relationship with APICS, TLAPS will deliver a pilot training program for APICS certification. APICS CPIM certification consists of five modules. The pilot program includes five review courses to cover the CPIM's five modules. The results of the pilot program will determine future support for subsequent training programs.	To establish a sustainable relationship with APICS	TLAPS (Thai) APICS (U.S.)	The fifth review on 'the Strategic Management of Resources', the fourth module of CPIM, was held between June 4 – 6, 2004. The project has been completed.
Performance Audit Workshop / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The training program was delivered as a two-week workshop introducing the fundamental principals, concepts, and methods of performance auditing. This workshop includes a three-day module on instructional skill to improve the ability of participants to pass on their newly acquired knowledge and skills to the Office of the Auditor General's auditors throughout the country.	To improve the capability of the OAG's auditors in performance auditing	OAG (Thai) GAO (U.S.)	The project was completed in April 2001.
Development and Implementation of the Strategic Framework and operational plan./ <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The US General Accounting Office and the Office of Inspector General, Department of Transportation (OIG/DOT) is providing technical assistance to increase the capabilities of the Office of the Auditor General of Thailand (OAG) and its officials in developing and implementing a new strategic framework and operational plan for OAG.	To devise the strategic framework and operational plan for OAG	OAG (Thai) GAO, OIG/DOT (U.S.)	The activities were completed. The final draft of strategic framework is to be announced by August 2004.

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Building Capacity and Professional Standard for Property Valuation in Thailand / <i>Financial Governance</i>	The Appraisal Foundation (TAF) is providing technical assistance to the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) to develop a single standard, code of ethics and its audit manual for Thai valuation profession. A single, neutral standard, code of ethics and audit manual for supervision will improve the transparency and accuracy of appraisals and will have a positive impact on financial and capital markets sector.	Single standard, code of ethics, and its audit manual for Thai valuation profession	SEC (Thai) TAF (U.S.)	The project was completed in November 2003.
ABIH Certified Industrial Hygienist Program / <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The Occupational Health and Safety at Work Association (OHSWA) of Thailand joined with the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH) to provide training and establish a certificate program	To upgrade the professional skills of Thai health officials and strengthen the relationship between OHSWA and ABIH	OHSWA (Thai) ABIH (U.S.)	The project was completed in September 2001.
Public Education Program on Credit Bureaus/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	The Fiscal Policy Office (FPO), and the Bank of Thailand (BOT) partnered with the U.S. Consumer Data Industry Association (CDIA), the Federal Trade Commission, and the Federal Reserve Board (FRB) to exchange knowledge and information on credit bureaus through public education programs.	To increase the awareness of credit information, credit reporting, credit bureaus, and the establishment and use of credit among the public, including private and government sectors	FPO, BOT (Thai) CDIA (U.S.)	The project was already completed.

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Large Grants				
Project Name / Objective	<i>Description</i>	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	<i>Status</i>
SET Junior Achievement Thailand / International Competitiveness	The BSOP is providing support to the Thailand Securities Institutes (TSI) of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) to organize, develop and deliver economics education programs for Thai youth and to promote Thai capital markets. Junior Achievement International (JAI), an International arm of the well-known US economic education organization, has provided the TSI with curriculum, education materials, and expert technical and training.	To promote the long-term development of the capital market and stock market in Thailand	SET-TSI (Thai) JAI (U.S.)	KIAsia continued to work with the SET-TSI to conduct a series of training. The contract with SET-TSI will be extended through September 2005.
The Bond Market Development/ Financial Governance	The co-operation between Thai BDC and TBMA was focused on the technical assistance and consultation, translation and adaptation of standards materials, as well as the introduction of an appropriate organizations in the U.S. to provide training course to the Thai BDC. This cooperative program aim at developing bond market in Thailand.	To develop the bond market in Thailand	Thai BDC TBMA (U.S.)	The project was already completed in September 2002.
Secured Transaction Law Development and Implementation/ Legislative and Judicial Reforms	American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) provided technical assistance to the Office of the Judiciary (OJ) to promote a new law on Business Secured Transaction in Thailand and to prepare the establishment of Registry Office	To promote a new Business Secured Transaction Law and to prepare for the establishment of a Registry Office	OCJ (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The project was already completed in September 2002.
Community Leadership Training Program/ Corporate Governance	The Institute for Management Education for Thailand foundation (IMET) joined with The Community Leadership Association (CLA) to conduct a training on Community Leadership program to promote good community leadership throughout Thailand	To promote good community leadership throughout Thailand	IMET (Thai) CLA (U.S.)	The project was completed in September 2002

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Mediation Center for Financial Disputes Program/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	American Bankruptcy Institution (ABI) provided technical assistance and training to enhance the efficiency and capabilities of a newly-established Mediation Centre for Financial Disputes (MCFD), including mediators, financial advisors, and staff.	To enhance the ability and creativity of mediators, financial advisors, and MCFD staff	DRO (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The project was successfully completed in September 2002
Organic Inspection Training Program/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The Independent Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA) provided technical assistance to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) to develop the organic crops inspection process in Thailand	To build Thai government officer's capabilities to inspect organic crops	DOA (Thai) IOIA (U.S.)	The project was completed in June 2002.
Productivity and Workplace Improvement/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	Occupational Safety and Health Association (OSHA) and the National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) are joining with the National Institute for the Improvement of Working Conditions and Environment (NICE) to deliver a train-the-trainer program on "Productivity and Workplace Improvements" in Thailand.	To upgrade the skills of regional NICE officers.	NICE (Thai) OSHA (U.S.) NIOSH (U.S.)	The project has been pending.
Upgrading the Capabilities of Post and Telegraph Department's Staff for National Telecommunications Commission's Secretariat Office/ <i>Corporate Governance</i>	This training and technical assistance program is to upgrade the capabilities of the officials of the Post and Telegraph Department (PTD) in the preparation of the organization to be transformed into the Secretariat of the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) which is to operate as an independent regulator regulating telecommunications, and promoting competition and liberalization.	To upgrade the capabilities of PTD's officials	PTD (Thai) FCC (U.S.)	The project was successfully completed in August 2003.

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Capacity Building for Dispute Resolution (Judicial Reform Project)/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	The Office of the Judiciary (OJ), the Federal Judicial Center (FJC), and the American Bar Association (ABA) have joined together to exchange knowledge and information on judicial reform issue. This training and technical assistance program aims to promote the application of new measures in the Thai courts in order to eliminate unnecessary delays and to improve efficiency in the court proceedings of economic cases.	To improve efficiency in the court proceedings	OCJ (Thai) FJC (U.S.) ABA (U.S.)	The project was already completed.
USFDA-Approved Better Process Control Scholl (BPCS) in Thailand Year II and III/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC) has provided the assistance to King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT) to establish USFDA approved BPCS in Thailand. BPCS is the first ever school in Thailand which aims to assist Thai food exporters of low-acid canned food (LACF) and acidified foods (AF) in exporting to foreign markets.	To establish a USFDA certified BPCS in Thailand	BIOTEC, KMUTT (Thai) Purdue Univ. (U.S.)	The project was already completed.
Internal Audit Quality Assessment – Professional Practices and Training on Quality Assurance Review Program/ <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA-US) initiated its professional practice of rendering quality auditing services on Quality Assurance Review (QAR) program for Krung Thai Bank, and provided capacity building for its Thai affiliated IIA of Thailand (IIAT). This QAR services aims to assist the bank's internal audit staff to improve its skills in operational auditing risk assessment and implementing of internal control.	To provide KTB with quality QAR services that will help improve its good governance.	KTB, IIAT (Thai) IIA-US (U.S.)	The project was completed in November 2002

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Capacity building for Internal Auditors profession Year II – Control Self Assessment Program/ <i>Corporate Good Governance</i>	The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA-US) is joining with the Institute of Internal Auditors of Thailand (IIAT) to deliver a public education and to conduct professional training course on Control Self Assessment (CSA) Program for The Institute of Internal Auditors of Thailand's members in building capacity for internal auditor profession.	To improve Thailand's financial and corporate governance through the education of internal auditors profession.	IIAT (Thai) IIA-US (U.S.)	Ms. Johanna Swauger, IIA's Assistant Vice President of the Research & Analysis, traveled to Bangkok to deliver a seminar and two training classes on "Enterprise Risk Management" from July 17 – 24, 2004. The project was successfully completed.
IPR Management Training Program/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The International Intellectual Property Institute (IIPI) and BIOTEC will join together with KIASia and other key stakeholders to contribute to a roadmap for national IP development and provide intellectual property management training for researchers, potential biotech entrepreneurs, investors and SMEs to promote bioentrepreneurship in Thailand and build the IPR commercialization skills of a core group of KIASia Intellectual Property consultants.	To develop and deliver a course for entrepreneurs, researchers and bioentrepreneurs on IPR commercialization	BIOTEC, KIASia (Thai) IIPI (U.S.)	On July 29, BSOP hosted a discussion forum on "Intellectual Property Roadmap for Thailand" in cooperation with BIOTEC, Thailand Research Fund (TRF), Chulalongkorn University's Intellectual Property Institute (CU IPI) and IIPI.
Corporate Citizenship Training Program: Engaging the Private Sector for Sustainable Economic Progress – Phase I/ <i>Corporate Good Governance</i>	KIASia's BSOP program, Thai experts from CSR Working committee and academics, and The Center for Corporate Citizenship at Boston College (The Center) will join together to deliver a series of training initiatives that promote private sector participation in local economic development.	To engage in social and economic development within their communities.	KIASia, Thai experts (Thai) CCC (U.S.)	KIASia in collaboration with CCC delivered a training program on "The Institute on Corporate Community Involvement" for the first time in Thailand. The training was held on June 22 – 23, 2004 for approx. 30 participants from Thai and multinational companies. The project was successfully completed.

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Developing the Rayong Livable Community: Proposal for the Economic Development Partnership Component/ <i>Corporate Good Governance</i>	BSOP is joining with Cornerstone Global Program, U.S. Economic Development Partnership Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand (IEAT), Dow Chemical Thailand, Ltd , and Rayong community, to implement the Economic Development Partnership in Rayong. Through this project, stakeholders in the Rayong community along with KIAAsia staff will gain hands-on experience in creating and sustaining an economic development partnership to (re)develop the Rayong province into a “livable community”.	To develop and sustain a pilot economic development partnership in Mab Tha Phut/Rayong that effectively addresses the community’s (re)development agenda	KIAAsia, Dow Chemical, IEAT (Thai) KIW, U.S. EDP (U.S.)	Three delegates from Rayong Community participated in the U.S. Study Tour to learn more about the U.S. economic development partnership model. The trip took place from September 12 – 25, 2004.
Corporate Citizenship Training Program: Engaging the Private Sector for Sustainable Economic Progress – Phase II/ <i>Corporate Good Governance</i>	KIAAsia's BSOP program and The Center for Corporate Citizenship at Boston College (The Center) will join together to deliver an Executive Briefing and the Corporate Citizenship training program in a series of training courses to promote private sector participation in local economic development.	To engage in social and economic development within the area of Corporate Social Responsibility.	KIAAsia, CCC (U.S.)	KIAAsia in collaboration with CCC delivered a series of training courses in Bangkok held on July 14-15 and 18-19 with participants from Thai and multinational companies. The the training courses was successfully completed.
Regional Judicial Reform: Alternative Dispute Resolution/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reform</i>	BSOP is joining with Thailand’s Ministry of Justice and the Office of the Judiciary to hold the 2 nd ASEAN Law Forum focusing on Alternative Dispute Resolution. The Forum will include a one-day workshop and one and a half-day conference. The participants will include representatives from ASEAN member countries.	To promote ADR in ASEAN	MOJ OJ ASEAN Sec. KIAAsia	The 2 nd ASEAN Law Forum held from July 26 – 28, 2005 in Bangkok was successfully completed.

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Technical Assistance for Thailand Rating Information Services (TRIS) / Financial Governance	Mr. Reed C. Parker, Volunteer Executive from IESC, had spent one month in Bangkok to provide technical assistance to TRIS in the area of credit rating from January 17 - February 11, 2000.	To strengthen Thai corporations' abilities to raise funds by improving the capabilities of TRIS in bond rating.	TRIS (Thai), IESC (US)	The project was completed in February 2000.
Technical Assistance for Thailand Rating Information Services (TRIS) - Trip # 2/ Financial Governance	An expert from Financial Services Volunteer Corps (FSVC) is providing technical assistance and training on traditional credit rating methodology to TRIS analysts. The program will also include the on-the-job training on specific cases to be rated.	To strengthen the capabilities of TRIS in credit rating methodologies and procedures, securitization	TRIS (Thai), FSVC (US)	The project was already completed.
APICS-TLAPS Partnership / International Competitiveness	With BSOP Support, Mr. Richard Welch, former President of participated in the TLAPS conference and set up a relationship with TLAPS. TLAPS President and Advisor also attended APICS conference held in October 2001 under BSOP support.	To establish long-term cooperation between TLAPS and APICS	TLAPS (Thai), APICS (US)	The project was already completed.
International Auditor Fellowship Program / Corporate Governance	Officials from the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) participated in an International Auditor Fellowship Program organized by the US General Accounting Office (GAO). The International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) promotes the sharing of information and experiences among Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) throughout the world.	To improve the capabilities of the OAG staff and develop a relationship between OAG and GAO	OAG (Thai), GAO (U.S.)	Under BSOP support, two OAG staff, including Mr. Phaisarn Vorasetsiri (2000), and Mr. Karanee Butrameeboon (2001), participated in the GAO Fellowship program in U.S. The program was already completed.

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
The International Auditor Fellowship Program's field office placement 2000 / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The program is a continuation of the International Auditor Fellowship program and is designed to provide the participant with training, which includes gaining practical experiences in designing and implementing audits.	To improve the capabilities of the OAG staff and develop a relationship between OAG and GAO	OAG (Thai) GAO (U.S.)	Mr. Phaisarn Vorasetsiri, the 2000 GAO Fellow, was selected to participate in the on-the-job training at GAO's field office in Chicago. The program was already completed.
Land Assessors' standard and procedures/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	Mr. James Park, Director of Research and Technical Issues from the Appraisal Foundation (TAF) came over to hold talks with key Thai organizations involved in the land assessment in late August.	Improve knowledge of assessors in Thai assessment organizations	Association of Thai Assessors, TAF (U.S.)	The program was completed in August 2000.
Certificate for Occupational Health and Safety / <i>International Competitiveness</i>	BSOP provided financial support to Mr. Dan Agopsowicz, the Board Chair of the American Board of Industrial Hygiene to deliver a seminar to the Occupational Health and Safety at Work Association in Thailand	To initiate training programs and establish a certificate program to comply with the new Labour ACT.	OHSWA (Thai), ABIH (U.S.)	The program was already completed.
SET Derivatives Program / <i>Financial Governance</i>	Mr. Robert B. Gilmore, an expert consultant, came to provide technical assistance and training to the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) to improve SET's knowledge of derivatives and systems to offer derivatives products.	To prepare the SET's staff for delivering of new derivatives products.	SET (Thai), U.S. partner	The program was completed.
Thai Credit Bureau / <i>Financial Governance</i>	With BSOP support, the executives from the Central Credit Information Services Co., Ltd. (CCIS) and the Thai Credit Bureau Co., Ltd., attended The Credit Reporting World Conference held by the US Consumer Data Industry Association (CDIA) in 2000 and 2002.	Better knowledge on credit bureaus	CCIS, TCB (Thai), CDIA (US)	The program was completed.

<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
BMA – Thai BDC Partnership/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	Mr. Michael Decker, Vice President of Research and Policy Analysis at the Bond Market Association (TBMA) held the meetings with the Thai Bond Dealing Centre (Thai BDC) and the Thai regulators in the area of bond market development in Thailand. This is the first step of building the partnership between Thai DBC and TBMA.	To build the partnership between Thai BDC and TBMA	Thai BDC, TBMA (U.S.)	The trip has been completed
International Pension Exchange Program/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	Three US. experts from Pacific Pension Institute (PPI) provided technical assistance to Government Pension Fund (GPF) of Thailand and gave their presentations at the "World Class Fund Management" conference held by GPF.	To educate GPF staff on pension fund management	GPF (Thai), PPI (U.S.)	The project was completed in May 2001.
International Pension Exchange Program II/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	BSOP provided support for the expert from Pacific Pension Fund to deliver a 2003 Asian Pension Fund Roundtable Meeting to be held between December 11 - 12, 2003 in Bangkok.	To strengthen the standards and performance of national pension systems and to promote more effective and transparent corporate governance	GPF (Thai), PPI (U.S.)	The project was approved in December 2003.
Secured Transaction Law Development and Implementation/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	With BSOP support, Dr. Thammanoon Phitayaporn, to attend the International Colloquium on Secured Transactions to discuss the first preliminary draft Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions prepared by the Secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)	To share Thailand's views on Secured Transactions Law with international communities	OJ (Thai) UNCITRAL	The project was completed.
<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				

Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Thai Telecommunication Development/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	Under BSOP support to the Post and Telegraph Department (PTD), the Communication Authority of Thailand (CAT) and the Telephone Organization of Thailand (TOT) sent the delegation to attend the "Southern Asian Telecommunications Regulatory Workshop" in Jakarta, Indonesia. In addition, the BSOP also has provided expert assistance to set up regulatory procedures for Thai National Telecommunications Commission (NTC).	To develop regulatory procedures for Thai NTC.	PTD (Thai), CAT (Thai), TOT (Thai), U.S. expert	The project was completed.
Bankruptcy Law Reform Project/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	Mr. George M. Kelakos made his preliminary trip to Bangkok to discuss the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI)'s technical assistance in the issues related to bankruptcy law reform with the Council of State (COS).	To promote bankruptcy law reform in Thailand	COS (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The project was completed in April 2002.
Judicial Administration and Reform Course/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	With BSOP support, the Supreme Court of Thailand sent two judges to participate in Judicial Administration and Reform Course held in Sydney, Australia between June 2 – 21, 2002. The course was organized by the International Development Law Institute (IDLI) to review international and regional initiatives in the field of judicial administration and governance, and to provide forum for discussion of judicial reform issues arising in the Asia-Pacific region.	To promote judicial administration and reform	The Supreme Court (Thai), IDLI	The project was completed.
<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants				

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Judicial Capacity regarding Intellectual Property – Enforcement and Dispute Settlement/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	Three senior judges from the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court participated in the conference on Judicial Capacity regarding Intellectual Property – Enforcement and Dispute Settlement held in Washington D.C., U.S. in 2002. The conference is organized by the United States Patent and Trade Mark Office (USPTO) and the International Intellectual Property Institute (IIPI) to provide a forum for participants to share their experiences in Intellectual Property Enforcement and Dispute Settlement.	To share Thailand's experiences on IPR with international	IP&IT court (Thai), IIPI (U.S.)	The project was completed in September 2002
The 5 th Annual Symposium on Intellectual Property Law: New Dimension in Present and Future/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	BSOP provided support for the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court to organize the 5 th Annual Symposium on Intellectual Property Law.	To expose Thai public to international practices of IPR	IP&IT court (Thai), IIPI (U.S.)	The project was completed.
Workshop for bankers on negotiating and mediating NPL settlements effectively/ <i>Financial and Corporate Governance</i>	In collaboration with the Thai Bankers' Association, Alternative Dispute Resolution Office, and the World Bank KIASia organized a one-day workshop entitled "Negotiating and Mediating NPL Settlements Effectively." The workshop was conducted by two U.S. experts from the American Bankruptcy Institute, Mr. Jacob Esher, Senior Mediator, JAMS, and Mr. George M. Kelakos, Special Counsel, Heller Ehrman Attorneys. The participants included 50 bankers and representatives from Thai Asset Management Corporation and the Corporate Debt Restructuring Advisory Committee of the Bank of Thailand.	To promote mediation to resolved financial cases in the courts in order to strengthen Thailand's financial and judiciary systems	TBA, ADR (Thai), ABI (U.S.), World Bank	The activity was completed.
<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants				

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
IP and Bioentrepreneurship Training Workshops/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	Two US experts, Dr. Mark Tang of World Technology Ventures, and Dr. Frances Toneguzzo, Director of Licensing, MGH, Harvard Medical School, traveled to Thailand to deliver an introductory training course on IP Management to BAC consultants. Subsequently, KIAAsia and BIOTEC co-organized a full-day workshop on “Bioentrepreneurship” on as part of the BioThailand 2003 conference in Pattaya. The US experts presented to 80 researchers, entrepreneurs, government and corporate participants.	To raise the awareness concerning bioentrepreneurship in Thailand	KIAAsia, BIOTEC (Thai), IIPi (U.S.)	The activities were completed.
Workshop on IPR Enforcement/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reform</i>	BSOP provided partial support for Mr. George M. Kelakos, Co-Chair of the International Committee of the American Bankruptcy Institute to participate in and share the U.S. experiences related to Alternative Dispute Resolution and mediation in intellectual property enforcement cases at a workshop on IPR enforcement to be held in Bangkok from May 18 – 21. The workshop is organized by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.	To promote best practices of ADR in IP enforcement cases	KIAAsia, ABI, USPTO (U.S.)	Mr. George M. Kelakos traveled to Bangkok in mid May to participate in the workshop on IPR Enforcement, organized by the USPTO.
The 7 th Annual Symposium on Current Issues in IP Law in Asia / <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	BSOP provided partial support for the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court to organize the 7 th Annual Symposium on Current Issues in IP Law in Asia. The symposium was held in Bangkok from November 30 to December 1.	To expose Thai public to current International Property Law in Asian and European perspective.	IP&IT court, the Max-Planck Institute, Waseda University, JETRO	The Workshop was completed.

AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program Quarterly Activities Report (July - September 2005)

<i>AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Dialogue projects in Thailand				
Strengthening Administrative Court Capacity: Judge Forum on Administrative Contracts	The experts from the U.S. Court of Federal Claims and other U.S. organizations provided technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of the Thai Administrative Courts in hearing administrative contract disputes	To develop court policy guidelines on Administrative Contracts	OAC (Thai), U.S. CFC	The project was already completed in March 2003.
Strengthening Administrative Court Capacity: Case Management and Court Administration	PADCO and KIAAsia facilitated a partnership between the Thai Administrative Courts and the U.S. Federal Judicial Center to strengthen the capacity of the Thai Administrative Courts in managing cases by raising awareness of senior judges on U.S. best practices and developing an action plan for implementing a recent assessment of the Court's case management capabilities by AusAID.	To develop guidelines on a Court policy for case management and court administration	OAC (Thai), U.S. CFC, FJC (U.S.)	The Office of the Administrative Courts organized a Thai – U.S. Forum on Case Management and Case Tracking System on July 21, 2004. Two U.S. experts joined the forum to share the U.S. experiences with Thai judges. The project was successfully completed in July 2004.
Developing a Thai Class Action Law	The American Bar Association (ABA) provided expert assistance to work with the Council of State (CoS), the Class Action Research Team, and the Class Action Subcommittee in developing the new Thai Class Action Law.	To develop the Thai Class Action Law	CoS (Thai), ABA (U.S.)	The project was successfully completed.

<i>AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Dialogue projects in Thailand				
Developing a Thai Open Meetings Law	The Office of the Maryland Attorney General, PADCO and the Kenan Institutes will work with the, Council of State, the Open Meetings Law Subcommittee, and the research team to facilitate access to international and U.S. best practices in developing the new open meetings law by establishing direct linkages between Thai and U.S. practitioners and legal experts.	To develop the Thai Open Meetings Law	CoS (Thai), Office of Maryland Attorney General (U.S.)	The project has been canceled. The funding has been reallocated.
Thai-US Program on Legislative Drafting Reform: Sharing Best International Best Practices on Legislative Drafting	Since the development for the “Developing a Thai Open Meeting Law” program was cancelled, the reallocation of the budget was approved to support the Office of the Council of State to implement the “Thai-US Program on Legislative Drafting Reform: Sharing Best International Best Practices on Legislative Drafting” program.	To develop the Thai Legislative Drafting Reform	CoS (Thai), Office of the Legislative Counsel from the US House of Representative (US), the State of Maryland (US), the National Conference of State Legislature	The Office of the Council of State organized the Legislative Drafting Reform Program held from November 8-11. The program included a workshop and a discussion series on legislative drafting process and challenges. Additional activities include Observation Program to the United States: Sharing Experience on Law-Making in Washington, DC and Maryland from June 13 to July 1, 2005. This event was completed.

<i>AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Dialogue projects in Vietnam				
Supporting Development of an IP Court in Vietnam	In partnership with the USAID's Support for Trade Acceleration (STAR) project, PADCO facilitated dialogue between Vietnamese and Thai judges and other counterpart agencies and organization to support the development of a specialized court or bench within the Vietnam Supreme People's Court to enable implementation of the U.S.-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA). This program included a series of integrated activities planned and implemented in cooperation with the STAR program.	To develop an Intellectual Property Court in Vietnam	Vietnam Supreme People's Court; Thai Central Intellectual Property and International Trade (CIPIT) Court	Two Thai judges from the Central Intellectual Property Court traveled to Hanoi, Vietnam to participate in and share legal experiences related to intellectual property at two seminars on IPR disputes held between June 23 - 27. The seminars, organized by the Supreme People's Court of Vietnam, aimed aim to address the aspects of Vietnam's intellectual property obligations under the Vietnam-U.S. Bilateral Trade Agreement and TRIPS. The activity was completed.
Regional Dialogue on Public Participation in Government Decision Making	PADCO, KIA Asia and The Asia Foundation facilitated linkages between Vietnam and Thailand on public participation related to their on-going efforts to develop new legal frameworks, and in addition launched a regional forum on public participation. Activities will include: (1) focused exchange between Vietnam and Thailand, and (2) a linked regional seminar in Bangkok. Participants will include legislators, agency officials and civil society leaders from Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.	To promote public participation in Vietnam	Vietnam Office of the National Assembly; Thai Council of State, the Asia Foundation	The project was completed in July 2003.

<i>AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Dialogue projects in Vietnam				
Strengthening Vietnam Administrative and Judicial Review Process: Sharing Experience with Thai Administrative Agencies and Courts	The AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program provided support for the Vietnamese delegation to visit Thai counterpart agencies and courts to exchange information and experience on administrative agency and court review, and dispute resolution. The visitation exposed the Vietnamese delegation to Thailand's practices in administrative and judicial review process. This activity is joint program between the Vietnam STAR program and AERA's Regulatory Dialogue program to strengthen Vietnam's administrative and judicial review process.	To strengthen Vietnam's administrative and judicial review process	Communist Party of Vietnam, STAR-Vietnam, Thailand's Administrative Courts, Council of State, Alternative Dispute Resolution Office, Revenue Dept., and Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court	Eleven senior officials from Vietnamese courts and government agencies visited Thai counterparts, including courts and government agencies between January 12 – 16, 2004 to learn more about Thailand's practices in administrative and judicial review process. The activity was completed.

<i>AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Dialogue projects in Vietnam				
Thailand – Vietnam Training on Intellectual Property Enforcement	In partnership with the USAID's Support for Trade Acceleration (STAR) project, PADCO and KIA Asia is facilitating dialogue between Vietnamese and Thai judges and other counterpart agencies and organization to support the development of a specialized court or bench within the Vietnam Supreme People's Court to enable implementation of the U.S.-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA). This program will include a three-week training program for Vietnamese judges on IPR enforcement to support movement toward establishment of a specialized IPR court. From venues in Vietnam and Thailand, this comprehensive training program will include presentations, training sessions and site visits conducted experts from Vietnam, Thailand and the U.S. In addition, to expand regional cooperation on IPR enforcement, the program will include judges from China and Laos.	To support the establishment of a specialize IP court in Vietnam by strengthening the capabilities of selected Vietnamese judges in handling IPR cases through specialized training on IPR principles, litigation procedures and institutional arrangements	Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court (CIPIT), STAR-Vietnam, Supreme People's Court of Vietnam	The two-weeks training program for 25 Vietnamese judges and officials was held in Thailand from March 7-18, 2005. In addition, two Laos Judges and one Chinese Judge joined the first week of the workshop. The project went successfully.

Border Action Against Malaria

<i>BAAM Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
The Study of Antimalarial Drug Use Practice in Thailand / <i>Surveillance of MDR Malaria</i>	<p>This activity consists of phase I, problem identification. Initial data collection will take place on the eastern border of Thailand with Cambodia. Since a study took place in Cambodia in October 2002, there may be a comparison of information across the border with Cambodian colleagues to identify potential areas of collaboration and joint approaches. It is anticipated that once the approach is developed for eastern Thailand, it will be adapted to the specific local conditions in other border regions, such as on the Thai-Burmese border, and that those areas will also be surveyed.</p> <p>The overall objective of this activity is to enhance the capacity of national and local counterparts to systematically identify and monitor community-level drug management practices and use and disseminate this information to develop policy and programmatic interventions.</p>	<p>Specific Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a Thailand-specific assessment and monitoring tool, which can be applied in border areas in Thailand 2. Develop the capacity to adapt the tool to local circumstances and apply it in selected areas 3. Analyze the findings to identify key drug use problems that may require additional exploration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau of Vector Borne Disease (Sub-Grantee) • Chantaburi Provincial Public Health Office • Office of Disease Control Chonburi • Management sciences for Health Chantaburi Province Vector-borne Disease Control Center, Vector-borne Disease Control Units in Pong Nam Ron and Soi Dao Districts 	<p>Data collection is completed and final analysis is underway.</p> <p>Preparations are underway to expand coverage to the Thai-Burma border at sentinel surveillance sites in Mae Hong Son and Tak Provinces.</p>

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding				
Large Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Strengthening of Sentinel Surveillance System for Anti-malarial Drug Resistance in Thailand / <i>Surveillance of MDR Malaria</i>	<p>With the Malaria Group of the Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases (MOPH) as focal point, the ADR surveillance network comprises malaria clinics under responsibility of regional Vector Borne Disease Control Offices 1-5, provincial and district community hospitals, and academic field research stations. Nine border provinces with high malaria incidence are selected as sentinel sites, <i>i.e.</i>, Chiang Mai, Mae Hong Son, Tak, Kanchanaburi, Ranong, Ratchaburi, Ubon Ratchathani, Chanthaburi, and Trat. Main activities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training on <i>in vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy assessment and <i>in vitro</i> sensitivity study; 2. <i>In vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy assessment of the first line treatment regimens; 3. <i>In vitro</i> sensitivity study of the currently used anti-malarial drugs; 4. Establishment of an information center for ADR network at the Malaria Division. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To establish a network of sentinel surveillance sites for monitoring anti-malarial drug resistance in Thailand 2. To study the current situation of anti-malarial drugs in Thailand both <i>in vivo</i> and <i>in vitro</i> and including using HRP2 drug sensitivity assay 3. To strengthen the cooperation among sentinel sites in country and among neighboring countries towards sharing anti-malarial drug resistance information 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Malaria Group, Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases 2. Provincial and district hospitals 3. Mahidol University 4. Siriraja Hospital 5. Thammasat University 6. The Royal Thai Armed Forces Research Institute for Medical Science 7. WHO 	<p>Initial and refresher training completed; sentinel surveillance by <i>in vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy study, <i>in vitro</i> sensitivity study, and HRP2 assay of the currently used anti-malarial drugs is on-going in 9 sentinel sites.</p> <p>Results of monitoring drug resistance in were analyzed at national technical workshops in 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005. Revised standard treatment regimen has been finalized. The national malaria drug policy committee has revised manuals on treatment guidelines for physicians and health workers; mefloquine-artesunate combination therapy is now used nation-wide since October 2004.</p>

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding				
Large Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Community-Based Malaria Control Along the Thai-Cambodia Border Through Civic Partnerships in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces / Health System Reform – Decentralized Response Strategies and Effective Partnership Models	The main concept of the project is to strengthen community involvement in malaria control and toward self-reliance in the long run through the process of standardized method of working for prevention, cure, and control, by community-based work to improve the potential of community and local agencies to address the malaria problem by themselves with support by related health personnel and other multi-disciplinary teams.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To initiate malaria epidemiology information center in the community. 2) To improve prevention in high-risk groups. 3) To promote community participation in solving problem of prevention in high-risk groups, and promote use of dipstick test for early diagnosis. 4) To promote community participation to address malaria with support by government organizations 5) To build capacity of health personnel and volunteers, including health personnel from Cambodia border areas if requested to create a network for disease control by communities themselves in the long run. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi and Trat Provincial Public Health Offices • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Schools • High-risk groups • Village health volunteers • Government agencies • Community leaders 	<p>Orientation workshops on conducted, community civil-society forums on malaria problem, analysis, and action planning conducted in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces.</p> <p>Training on use of GIS for malaria control conducted in Chantaburi Province.</p> <p>Workshop conducted on community epidemiology for multi-sectoral local malaria control core participants in Trat Province, and training held on improved diagnosis and treatment of malaria in Trat Province.</p> <p>Community malaria core teams established and trained; stakeholder awareness and planning sessions conducted for community-based control projects; community malaria information centers established.</p>

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding				
Large Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Developing and producing dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection / Increased Access to Rapid Parasitological Diagnosis and Effective Treatment	<p>Preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies, followed by research and development to determine the feasibility of local production of dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection of both <i>P. falciparum</i> and non-<i>P. falciparum</i>.</p> <p><i>General objective: To locally produce a rapid, simplified, reliable and maximized sensitivity dipstick dye immunoassay utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibody against pLDH and pGAPDH for detecting malaria antigens of falciparum and non-falciparum malaria in human blood by using our national resources.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To raise/characterize MAbs against pLDH and pGAPDH, maximize test sensitivity, genetic diversity to the <i>P. f.</i> parasite population, and not react to non-malaria antigen. To develop a rapid, simplified, sensitive, and specific dipstick assay to detect asexual erythrocytic stage of <i>P.f.</i> and non-<i>P.f.</i> To increase sensitivity, aiming at 100% for densities of >100 parasites per µl blood in four species. To improve readability of tests (better signal intensity & avoidance of mix-ups). To evaluate relative sensitivity/specificity of the antigen detection dipstick method for <i>P. f.</i> malaria field diagnosis compared to microscopy. To set up a quality control system for sensitivity and specificity. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases, Department of Disease Control, MOPH National Institute of Health, Department of Medical Sciences, MOPH 	Cloning and expression of pLDH in <i>E. coli</i> by genetic engineering obtained expressed fusion protein. By affinity purification, the protein obtained had high purity and good yield, and these proteins show the pLDH enzyme activity; Pre-immunized sera of rabbits were determined for the reactivity with pLDH and GST proteins by western blot analysis. Reactivity of the immunize sera was characterized by western blot analysis, followed by standardization of ELISA assay, determination of appropriate blocking solution in ELISA assay, and titration of polysera., 4 LDH and 4 GAPDH clones with an acceptable level of response have been produced for use by NIH on the prototype dipstick.

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i>	<p>The project builds partnerships to develop a model for a school-based approach to community action against malaria as a strategy for developing knowledge, attitudes, skills and behavior necessary for community-based self-reliant action against malaria in highly endemic border. The model comprises the following key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A process for participatory learning and action against malaria by the school and community; • Use of case study approach on a whole school basis to study the local malaria situation and identify alternative solutions; • Use of life skills education methods to enhance the case study approach and develop/change behavior to prevent and reduce malaria; • Development of learning materials to support discovery learning; • Mobilization of communities for self-reliant action against malaria; • Provision of technical support to schools and communities; • Leveraging resources from local sub-district councils to support community malaria prevention and control plans and projects <p>Phase II (replication trials) began in October 2002 with expansion to include 40 schools in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, and Trat Provinces.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To strengthen capacity of schools and teachers to facilitate participatory learning and action by students and communities to prevent and control malaria. 2. To raise awareness and mobilize community action to prevent and control malaria. 3. To set up an example of a working model with multi-sectoral organizations collaborating as equal stakeholders. 4. To build on lessons learned and best practices for expansion of coverage to other endemic border areas facing increasingly multi-drug resistant malaria. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Education - Office of National Primary Education Commission: Office of Special Projects, Office of Supervision and Standards, Offices Provincial Primary Education Commissions in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, Trat • Health Behavior Development Group, Malaria Division • Regional Disease Control Offices, Vector Borne Disease Control Centers and Units • The Life Skills Development Foundation • Rajabhat Institute Chiang Mai • Border Patrol Police Bureau 	<p>Phase I (model-building): 200 teachers, principals, education supervisors from 25 schools in 4 districts received 25 days of training in 5 workshops. Students completed community malaria situation assessments, analyzed alternatives, and shared with community leaders in consultation workshops to reach consensus on action plans and projects. Community-generated malaria control projects received funding support. A participatory process evaluation was conducted in August 2002. Phase II: 109 grade 4-9 teachers/ supervisors from 15 expansion schools received 15 days training, conducted surveys of health problems, malaria KAP, analysis of community malaria situation and alternatives for action. Phase III: 230 grade 4-9 teachers from 46 expansion schools received 7 days training on revised curriculum on mosquito-borne diseases.</p>

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Thailand Roll Back Malaria Strategic Planning Workshop / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i>	<p>BAAM Project Coordinating Unit organized a multi-agency gathering of key stakeholders in malaria control. Working group sessions were held to obtain input on key strategies for renewed joint efforts to control malaria with special focus on border areas and multi-drug resistant malaria. Deliberations focused on the following thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis, treatment, case management • Community/household prevention • Epidemiology, surveillance, mapping, GIS • Decentralization, health system reform, responsibilities, and processes for community participation • Staff capacity building and training methodologies • Participatory learning processes, and prototypes for action in target communities • International organizations/agencies and their contribution to Thailand Roll Back Malaria <p>The thematic working groups presented results of their discussions in the form of recommended strategies, activities, support needed, and potential partner agencies for comments and plenary discussion.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To seek approaches and mechanisms for mutual cooperation for more successful malaria control. 2. To provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to present experience and share ideas to move toward formulation of key joint strategies for collaboration in systematically advancing as appropriate and necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH • Mahidol University • Thai and US AFRIMS • Royal Project Bureau • Royal Thai Army • Border Patrol Police Bureau • Hilltribe Welfare Division, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare • Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board • Office of the National Primary Education Commission • The Life Skills Dev. Foundation • IMPECT • IRC • ACTMalaria • MSF • PATH Canada • UNICEF • WHO • USAID 	<p>Workshop completed in July 2000. Participants from the wide range of organizations involved in anti-malaria efforts in Thailand were able to achieve a considerable degree of consensus on four principal strategies for rolling back malaria in Thailand.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Surveillance and response: epidemic preparedness, prevention and control 2. Early diagnosis, prompt and effective treatment 3. Household and community prevention 4. Health system reform and decentralization to support local self-reliance in malaria control 5. Collaboration and coordination with equal partnerships among local implementing agencies <p>Program strategies, operational strategies, and potential partner agencies were compiled into a national strategic framework for Roll Back Malaria in Thailand.</p>

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Participatory action research planning workshop in Chantaburi Province / Effective Partnership Models	Following on focus group discussions conducted with more than 200 malaria high-risk villagers in Chantaburi Province, MOPH Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 organized a planning workshop with local government officials, informal employers and high-risk forest-related occupation groups from Pong Nam Ron and Soi Dao Districts. Working groups provided input into formulation of proposals for subgrants to support development of appropriate interventions for a community-based approach to malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To review results of focus group discussions with malaria high-risk groups. 2. To generate input on interventions emphasizing self-reliance. 3. To identify collaborating partners and their potential roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH VBDO No. 5, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi Provincial Public Health Office • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Border Patrol Police • Royal Thai Marines • Principals and teachers • Informal employers • High-risk groups • Village health vols. 	Workshop completed in August 2001. Input used to formulate action research proposal planned for funding in FY 2002. Implementation underway on community-level epidemiology system using GIS and community awareness raising interventions.
Participatory action research planning workshops in Trat Province / Effective Partnership Models	MOPH Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 organized two planning workshops in Trat Province, with local government officials, informal employers, subdistrict council members, and high-risk forest-related occupation groups from Bo Rai, Muang, and Klong Yai Districts. Working groups provided input into formulation of proposals for subgrants to support development of appropriate interventions for a community-based approach to malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas. These workshops were followed by consultations with key officials of Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 on formulating a proposal for subgrant support from BAAM.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. To review results of focus group discussions with malaria high-risk groups. 5. To generate input on interventions emphasizing self-reliance. 6. To identify collaborating partners and their potential roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • , MOPH VBDO No. 5, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi Provincial Public Health Office • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Border Patrol Police • Royal Thai Army and Marines • School Principals and teachers • Informal employers • High-risk groups • Village health vols. 	Workshops completed in November 2001. Input used to formulate action research proposal planned for funding in FY 2002. Implementation underway on community-level epidemiology system and community awareness raising interventions.

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
USAID Roll Back Malaria Partners' Meeting: Informal Consultation on Monitoring Anti-malarial Drug Quality and Use Practices / <i>Surveillance of MDR Malaria</i>	BAAM Project Coordinating Unit organized a series of meetings from September 12-14, 2001 for consultations on monitoring drug quality and use practices among representatives of USAID Roll Back Malaria partners in Thailand, Cambodia, the U.S.A, and WHO.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To identify important issues related to drug quality control and drug use practices; 2. To identify priority actions to initiate study and monitoring of drug quality and use as components of sentinel surveillance; 3. To identify potential implementing actors in study and monitoring of drug quality and use practices; 4. To identify opportunities for technical cooperation, and support needed to implement study and monitoring of drug quality and use practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USAID • WHO • Royal Thai Government Ministry of Public Health • Cambodian Ministry of Health • US Pharmacopeia • Management Sciences for Health • ACTMalaria • KIASia - BAAM PCU 	The consultation meetings are completed. The consultations resulted in identification of important issues and priority actions needed to initiate/implement study and monitoring of drug quality and drug use practices as integral components of sentinel surveillance of anti-malarial drug resistance with a focus on Thailand and Cambodia.
Training of village health/malaria volunteers and sub-district council members / <i>Health System Reform –Decentralized Response Strategies and Effective Partnership Models</i>	BAAM Project Coordinating Unit collaborated with VBDO Nos. 1 and 2 to organize 2 training workshops for village health/malaria volunteers and sub-district council members on in-depth community malaria situation analysis; prevention, control and treatment of malaria; and coordinating planning for community action against malaria.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase knowledge, attitudes and behavior related to malaria. 2. To understand analysis of risk and community malaria epidemiological situation. 3. To prepare for collaboration with schools in analyzing alternative actions and formulating community malaria action plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VBDO No. 1 and 2, VBDCs and VBDUs • Village health/malaria volunteers • Sub-district council • Provincial Primary Education Offices • The Life Skills Development Foundation 	Training workshops were completed in February 2002. Volunteers and sub-district council members from communities served by 25 schools in 4 districts have increased knowledge about malaria, situation/risk analysis, and are prepared to collaborate in school-community malaria action planning workshops in July 2002.

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Write shop to summarize one year implementation of the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria Project / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i>	BAAM Project Coordinating Unit collaborated with the Special Projects Office of the Office of the National Primary Education Commission to organize a write shop to summarize implementation at the whole-school level and at each grade level from kindergarten to grade 9 under the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria Project.	1. To summarize results of first year implementation including learning processes, curriculum linkages, and teaching plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Projects Office of the Office of the National Primary Education Commission • Provincial and District Offices of Primary Education • The Life Skills Development Foundation • BAAM PCU 	Writesops completed in April 2002, 2003, 2004. Representatives of 40 schools in 4 provinces summarized implementation, learning processes, content, life skills, problems & solutions, results, benefits.
Transfer of technology training on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies / <i>Increased Access to Rapid Parasitological Diagnosis and Effective Treatment</i>	Dr. Pongwit Bualombai of the Malaria Division was sent to the University of Manchester to participate in a short training course on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies. If this is successful, it will be followed by research and development to determine the feasibility of local production of dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection of both P. falciparum and non-P. falciparum.	1. Transfer of technology on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaria Division, Department of Communicable Disease Control, MOPH • National Institute of Health, Department of Medical Sciences, MOPH 	Dr. Pongwit Bualombai is undergoing training at the Department of Molecular Biology, University of Manchester, and will return in July.

AERA Education Program's Project Matrix

1. Projects Completed

Project Name	Partners	Project Description	Grant Amount (US\$)	Timeline	Current Status
East-West Community College Project - Leadership and Teacher Training	Office of the Community College Promotion, Ministry of Education and East-West Community College Consortium	To assist Thailand's Ministry of Education in its effort to establish community colleges in Thailand. Two training programs were delivered to the college administrators including the training on leadership skills in Bangkok and the training on community college administration, teaching, and faculty development in Hawaii.	69,723	February 1 - December 31, 2002	The project was completed.
English through Entertainment	Supervisor Unit, Department of General Education	To assist in the reproduction and distribution of a lesson plan and instructional media for the "English through Entertainment" course. English Center, Supervisory Unit and specialized teachers worked together to design the curriculum, develop the lesson plan, produce the instructional media and evaluate the program. A teacher's manual, videotapes and cassette tapes are additional instruments to support the teachers.	34,633	April 15, 2001 - 31 December 2003	The project was completed. The training packages were distributed to 3,000 high schools nationwide.
Chula Conference on Innovative Ideas for English Language Teaching	Chulalongkorn University Language Institute	CULI is organizing the 5th International Conference from December 15-17, 2003. The focus is on innovative ideas for ELT including the applications of innovative technologies, which can be applied to classroom instruction or self access learning centers.	5,500	May 1, 2003 - January 31, 2004	The project was completed.
Participatory Learning Leading to Integrated Community Development	Faculty of Social Science, Chiang Mai University (Thai Woman of Tomorrow Project) and the Office of the National Primary Education Commission (ONPEC)	To use a new learning approach to involve community members in understanding more about the value of education and the action competency that students were able to develop. The activities mainly focus on staff development of all related participants such as school staff and key members of the community.	26,519	January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2003	The teacher workshop was completed. Each school presented its localized curriculum and results from the first academic semester.

Project Name	Partners	Project Description	Grant Amount (US\$)	Timeline	Current Status
English Language Center for Mae Fah Luang University	Mae Fah Luang University and Oregon State University	To assist Mae Fah Luang University in its effort to establish an English language center. TESOL specialists from Oregon State University provided consultation and workshops on curriculum development and set-up of a resource center to the Liberal Arts Faculty's English teachers for phase I. MFLU English teachers to be trained in language teaching skill at OSU, for phase II.	68,656	December 1, 2002 - June 30, 2004	The project was completed.
Thai Youth Development by ICT Project - Web-Aided Instruction Train-the-Trainers Component	Ministry of Information and Communications Technology (MICT), Min. of Education (MoE), National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (NECTEC), TOT Corporations Co., Ltd., Communications Authority of Thailand (CAT) and Oracle Corporation Thailand, Ltd.	To expand a learning opportunity for Thai youth by building capacity and increasing capability of ICT skills for them, leading our country to be a knowledge-based society. This is to train about 4,000 leading teachers in 2003 and 1,000 leading teachers in 2004 on web-based instruction/training skills. The 3-day training course will equip teachers with ICT knowledge in think.com software, computer graphics, and Internet-browser programs.	35,813	April 1, 2003 - December 31, 2004	4,000 leading teachers were trained on web based instruction/training skills. The project was completed.
Animation and Multimedia Workshop (Phrase I)	Rajabhat Chiang Rai University	To enhance computer skills in the making of animation and multimedia of students in grades 4-9 in Chiang Rai provide. The 16-hour training program to be organized by Rajabhat Institute Chiang Rai will train 120 students in 4 sessions. The objectives of this program are for the students to gain an understanding of drawing basic cartoons and computer graphics; to use MOHO software to create animation; and to acquire skills in art and creative thinking. It is planned that 5 students from this training will participate in the Thailand Animation and Multimedia Fair (TAM) in 2005.	7,745	May 1 – September 30, 2004	The project was completed
Information and Communications Technology Training for Educational Purposes in Rural	Rajabhat Surin University (RSU)	To enhance an e-Learning competency of Rajabhat Surin University (RSU), a rural higher education institute in the	10,000	Feb 01, 2004- Aug 31, 2004	The training was delivered. The project was

Project Name	Partners	Project Description	Grant Amount (US\$)	Timeline	Current Status
Higher Education Institute		Northeastern Thailand. The main activity of the project is to train 20 educational staff from RSU who will become trainers for other RSU staff and teachers from 17 schools' labs in Surin province on ICT for education development skills. After the completion of this course, trainees will be able to finish and upload websites. They will integrate this new tool/teaching method in their regular classes. Approximately 1,000 students will gain knowledge from 20 web sites that will be created by the 20 trainees in this program.			completed.
ICT Workshop for School Teacher in the North	Rajabhat Institute Chiang Rai	To upgrade the ICT capabilities of 200 teachers in Chiang Rai. RICR has its own courseware management (http://E-learning.ricr.ac.th) and believes that this tool will be useful in bridging the digital divide for schools in the Northern Thailand. This 18-hour training course will equip trainees with knowledge of RICR Courseware Management, e-learning web-site design, and web-site developing software.	8,275	May 1 – September 30, 2004	The project was completed.

2. On-going Projects

Project Name	Partners	Project Description	Grant Amount (US\$)	Timeline	Current Status
Self-Access English Language Centers for Thai Community Colleges	Office of Community College Promotion, Ministry of Education, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, and Oregon State University	To improve English teaching capabilities of the 10 Thai community colleges by assisting them in setting up a self-access English language center at each college. The self-access centers will be equipped with learning materials, including books and multimedia resources that are suitable	50,000 (plus \$15,00 from the US Embassy)	June 25, 2003 – August 31, 2005	A handbook on how to set up and run SACs has been published. All the ten colleges have already received a copy of the

Project Name	Partners	Project Description	Grant Amount (US\$)	Timeline	Current Status
		for learners with varying levels of English language skill. The centers will become an important tool for language learning not only for students but also teachers and the workforce in the community. The centers can also be integrated into existing English language programs where participants can improve their English at their own time, pace, and interest with supervision from a learning facilitator.			handbook. The two KMUTT experts will conduct a follow-up visit to three selected SACs in the fourth quarter of FY2005.
Entrepreneurship Training for Thai Community Colleges	KIAsia's Business Advisory Center, Bureau of Community College Administration, North Carolina Community College System	To bring in and localize a successful entrepreneurship curriculum from the US. With assistance from the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS), six Thai trainers will be trained to become Master Facilitators for "REAL Entrepreneurship" curriculum in order for them to adapt and train trainers and students from the ten Thai community colleges. The REAL Entrepreneurship curriculum is expected to be adopted as an on-going training program at Thai community colleges and other Thai educational institutions.	87,702	May 1, 2004 – September 30, 2005	Three Master Facilitators from the US conducted a follow-up Institute for the Thai Master Facilitators in Thailand in May 2005. Thai community college trainers will roll out a supervised training session at their respective institution.
KIAsia- GMS English Academic Fellowship Program	KIAsia, Mae Fah Luang University, educational institutions from the GMS countries	To strengthen To strengthen Mae Fah Luang University's position as a leading higher educational institution in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) that uses English as a major medium of teaching instruction. The KIAsia – GMS English Academic Fellowship Program will not only be a channel to promote MFLU in the region to be better known among professors and scholars, but will also upgrade MFLU's own academic human resources. Two main activities under this project are the provision of twelve fellowships to professors and	74,000	April 1, 2004 – September 30, 2005	

Project Name	Partners	Project Description	Grant Amount (US\$)	Timeline	Current Status
		graduate students from the GMS countries and the organization of a GMS TESOL forum at MFLU.			
Improving the Quality of Education Through IT Project, under the World Bank-funded Secondary Education Quality Improvement (SEQI) project	Rajabhat Institute Chiang Mai, Oregon State University, Meanprasatwittaya School	The activities are intended to supplement the World Bank-funded Secondary Education Quality Improvement (SEQI) Project (Northern Region) awarded to KIA Asia and to achieve the aims of the AERA - Education program in promoting ICT in education. The key activities to be undertaken include organizing a training workshop on Computer Assisted English Language Learning (CAELL) and using information technology for teaching. It will include a workshop on Enhancing Leadership and Management of Technology. The project promotes a New Model of Supervision-Supportive Mentoring (kalayanamit): Strengthen Education Service Area supervisors through experiential learning in implementing learning reform and application of computer technology as a tool for teaching and develops local software/courseware/CAI & materials.	69,420	May 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005	A training workshop on Computer Assisted English Language Learning (CAELL) and using information technology for teaching is being planned
American Volunteers for Thai Community Colleges Projects (AVTCC)	King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi and Bureau of Community College Administration	The project will bring in 12 qualified English native speakers from the US to work as volunteers at the newly-established self-access English language centers (SACs) of the ten Thai community colleges. These American volunteers, spending at least three months in Thailand, will provide opportunities for community college students to have more interactions with English speakers, encourage exchanges of cultures, and promote use of the English language.	34,050	October 2004 – September 2005	The first batch of five American volunteers have already arrived and are now currently working at the community college hosts.